

(see the accompanying "Marked-Up" version pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121):

Please delete the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 24 and ending on page 9, line 15, and replace with the following:

Fig. 1 is a perspective of an embodiment of a telescopic unit according to the present invention, wherein the telescopic unit is in the extended state;

Fig. 2 is a perspective of said telescopic unit in the contracted state;

Fig. 3 is a sectional view of said telescopic unit, showing when the telescopic unit is released from a secured state;

Fig. 4 is a sectional view of said telescopic unit in the secured state;

Fig. 5 is a sectional view of said telescopic unit in the secured state;

Fig. 6 is a schematic illustration to explain the shape of a cross section of a first tubular member of said telescopic unit;

Fig. 7 is a perspective of telescopic units used in a tripod;

Fig. 8 is a sectional view of another embodiment of a telescopic unit according to the present invention;

Fig. 9 is a sectional view of yet another embodiment of a telescopic unit according to the present invention;

Fig. 10 is a sectional view of yet another embodiment of a telescopic unit according to the present invention;

Fig. 11 is a sectional view of yet another embodiment of a telescopic

unit according to the present invention; and

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Fig. 12 is an exploded perspective of a conventional telescopic unit.

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Please amend the paragraph starting on page 9, line 19 and ending on page 10, line 2, to read as follows:

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A tripod 100 shown in Fig. 7 has a leg structure comprising extensible legs, each of which consists of a plural number of segments, e.g. three segments. Tripod 100 is provided with a base 10 which has three leg attachments 11. A telescopic unit 12 that serves as a leg unit is attached to each leg attachment 11 so that tripod 100 can be closed or opened as needed. An elevator rod 14 passes through the base 10 in such a way that the height of the elevator rod 14 can be adjusted. A panhead (not shown) to be used with a camera is mounted on the top of the elevator rod 14.

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Please delete pages 24-28 and replace them with the following substitute pages 24-28 enclosed herewith.

**IN THE DRAWINGS:**

Please amend the drawings submitted on April 19, 2001 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 as follows (see the accompanying "marked up" version pursuant to